

[Translation]

Fifth Round of Talks between foreign secretaries of India and Pakistan

1151. SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN:
 SHRI BARAELALL JATAV:
 SHRI GOPINATH GAJAPATHI:
 SHRI CHITTA BASU:
 SHRI AMAR RAJYRADHAN:
 SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL;

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the bilateral issues that figured at the fifth round of talks held between the foreign secretaries of India and Pakistan;

(b) the outcome thereof;

(c) whether the issues of Sir Creek in Rann of Kutch and Tulbul Water Barrage in Kashmir also figured in the talks; and

(d) if so, the result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO):

(a) during the fifth round of talks held at Islamabad on 30-31 October 1991, the Foreign Secretaries of India and Pakistan discussed the entire range of bilateral issues including, inter alia, the question of Pakistan's support to terrorism, disarmament and measures to carry the bilateral dialogue forward.

(b) Both sides agreed to consider issuing a joint declaration on chemical weapons, and to convene a meeting of experts of the two sides on mutually convenient to exchange views on a bilateral agreement to ban the development, production, deployment and use of chemical weapons. It was also agreed to resume the dialogue on Siachen, to hold

further meetings on the Tulbul Navigation project, boundary in Sir Creek area, and to exchange before 1 January, 1992 the coordinates of their nuclear installations and facilities in pursuance of the Agreement on Prohibition of Attack Against Nuclear Installations and Facilities signed in December 1988.

(c) and (d) While expressing satisfaction at the outcome of Secretary level talks on these issues held earlier in the month, it was agreed to hold another round of talks before the next meetings the Foreign Secretaries.

[English]

Modernisation of IISCO

1152. SHRI BASU DEB ACHARIA:
 SHRI HARADHAN ROY:
 SHRI HANNAN MOLLAH:
 SHRI CHITTA BASU:

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government have taken any final decision for modernisation of IISCO;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which the modernisation work is likely to be started; and

(c) the expenditure likely to be incurred thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

L.P.G. connections in Chandigarh

1153. SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applicants on the waiting list for LPG connections in

Chandigarh; and

(b) the time by which LPG connections are likely to be issued to all the applicants?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) About 0.64 lakhs

(b) Efforts are on to give LPG connections to as many applicants as early as possible.

[*Translation*]

Exploration of Oil and Natural Gas In Rajasthan

1154. SHRI GIRDHARI LAL BHARGAVA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the districts in Rajasthan where Seismic survey was conducted to explore oil and natural gas and when such survey was conducted;

(b) the number of places where drilling work was undertaken and the number of wells in which oil and natural gas has been found;

(c) whether ONGC and OIL have adequate number of rigs which can drill to the maximum depth and if not, whether they propose to arrange more rigs;

(d) whether according to experts there are a number of places in Rajasthan where oil and natural gas can be found;

(e) if so, whether there is proposal to conduct survey in regard to find out such places for the purpose of exploration of oil and natural gas; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) Since 1958, in Jaisalmer, Barmer, Jalore, Bikaner and

Ganganagar Districts.

(b) 57 wells have been drilled in Rajasthan, and as on 1.10.91, gas/oil has been discovered in 25 wells.

(c) OIL and ONGC arrange for rigs as per requirement and availability.

(d) to (f) Exploration is still going on in Rajasthan.

[*English*]

Closure of Gold Mines at Kolar

1155. SHRI RAM KAPSE: SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA:

Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Bharat Gold Mines Limited has taken any decision to close down the gold mines at Kolar;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of gold mines closed down or proposed to be closed down in the near future;

(d) the anticipated loss, in terms of quantity of gold; and

(e) the number of workers rendered likely to be unemployed as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) to (d). Due to depletion of gold ore, ultra-deep mining operations, lower grade of gold ore and high costs of production, gold mining at Kolar has become uneconomic and the Company has sustained losses of over Rs. 118.16 crores in the last 5 years.

Government have decided to phase out the uneconomic mining at Mysore, Champion and Nundydroog mines while simultaneously exploring the possibility of economic mining at shallow levels in Kolar Gold Fields. There